To the Honourable

The Knights, Citizens and Burgeſſes,

in PARLIAMENT Aſſembled;

The Deplorable Caſe and Humble Petition of Dr. *TITUS OATES*,

SHEWETH,

THAT your Petitioner in the Year 1678, diſcovered a horrid Popiſh Conſpiracy, for the Deſtruction of King *Charles* the Second, and his preſent Majeſty, and the Proteſtant Religion within theſe Kingdoms; and proved it ſo fully, that ſeveral Parliaments and Courts of Juſtice, before whom he gave his Teſtimony, declared their belief of it by publick Votes and the Condemnation of ſeveral of the Conſpirators.

THAT upon this Account the Popiſh Party purſued your Petitioner with an implacable Malice, attempting ſeveral times to take away his Life; and being defeated in that Attempt, they firſt procured the ſaid King *Charles* the Second to withdraw that Protection and Subſiſtance that the ſaid King had allowed him at the Requeſt of ſeveral Parliaments, which was 40 *l. per* Month; and then inſtigated his Royal Highneſs the Duke of *York* to proſecute your Petitioner in an Action of *Scandalum Magnatum*, for ſpeaking this Notorious Truth, (*viz.*) That he the ſaid D. of *York* was **Reconciled to the Church of** Rome, **and that it is High-Treaſon to be ſo Reconciled**; wherein a Verdict and Judgment for 100000 *l.* Damages were obtained againſt your Petitioner, and your Petitioner committed to the *King's Bench* Priſon.

AFTER this the Popiſh Party obtained leave from King *Charles* the 2*d*, to prefer two ſeveral Indictments againſt your Petitioner for two pretended Perjuries, in his Evidence concerning the ſaid Conſpiracy; which they brought on to a Trial in the Reign of King *James* the Second: and your Petitioner upon the Teſtimony of theſe very Witneſſes who had Confronted him in three former Trials, and were disbelieved, (through the partial Behaviour of the Chief Juſtice *Jefferies*, in brow-beating your Petitioner's Witneſſes and miſleading the Juries) was Convicted of the ſaid pretended Perjuries, and received this Inhumane and unparallel'd Sentence, *viz.* **To pay 2000 Marks to the King, to be diveſted of his Canonical Habit; to be brought into** Weſtminſter-Hall **with a Paper upon his Head, with this Inſcription,** Titus Oates Convicted upon full Evidence of two horrid Perjuries; **to ſtand in and upon the Pillory two ſeveral Days for the ſpace of an Hour; to be Whipt by the Common-Hangman from** Aldgate **to** Newgate **on** Wedneſday, **and** Friday **following from** Newgate **to** Tyburn; **to ſtand in and upon the Pillory five times every Year of his Life, and to remain a Priſoner during Life.**

THIS Sentence (as your Petitioner believes) was to murder him, and was executed accordingly with all the Circumſtances of Barbarity, he having ſuffered ſome thouſands of Stripes, whereby he was put to unſpakeable Tortures, and lay ten Weeks under the Chirurgions Hands: neither did their Malice and Cruelty ceaſe here, but becauſe your Petitioner (through the Mercy of God ſupporting him, and the extraordinary Skill of a Judicious Chirurgion) outlived that barbarous Uſage, ſome of them got into his Chamber whileſt he was weak in his Bed, and attempted to pull of the Plaiſters applied to cure his Back, and threatned to deſtroy him.

THAT nothing within their Power and Malice might be wanting to compleat your Petitioner's Miſery, they procured him to be loaded with Irons of exceſſive Weight for one whole Year without any Intermiſſion, even when his Legs were ſwollen with the Gout, and to be ſhut up in the Hole or Dungeon of the ſaid Priſon, whereby he became impaired of his Limbs, and contracted Convulſion-Fits to the Hazard of his Life. All which Illegal Proceedings and Barbarous Inhumanities, were not only intended againſt your Petitioner as a Revenge upon him, but likewiſe to caſt a Reproach upon the Wiſdom and Honour of four ſucceſſive Parliaments, who had given him Credit, and upon the publick Juſtice of the Nation.

DURING the Time that this Proſecution was upon your Petitioner, ſeveral Noblemen and Gentlemen, Citizens and others contributed 400 *l. per Annum* for his Support and Maintenance, which your Petitioner enjoyed till his preſent Majeſty King *William*, at the requeſt of both Houſes of Parliament, reſtored to him your Petitioner, the foreſaid Penſion of 40 *l. per Menſem*, after having been deprived thereof nine Years, to his loſs above 5000 *l.*

THAT your Petitioner enjoyed the ſaid Allowance of 40 *l. per* Month, from *September* 1689. till *Lady-day* in the Year 1692. after which time your Petitioner had not his Penſion paid him, to the undoing of your poor Petitioner, his Friends withdrawing their Bounty from him, when his Majeſty reſtored your Petitioner to his ſaid Penſion, they judging him to be provided for during his Life: ſo that your Petitioner is ruined, he having in the time of his Sufferings, and ſince his allowance of 40 *l. per* Month was taken away, contracted Debts, for which he hath bin ſued by his Creditors, and hath bin Arreſted and his Goods taken in Execution; and muſt have periſhed had not the *Lords of the Treaſury* relieved your Petitioner with the Sum of 350 *l.* with which Sum your poor Petitioner did pay his Creditors in part, but will be ſued for the Remainder of his Debts which amounts to 500 *l.* and his poor Wife and Family muſt periſh, and your Petitioner ſtarve at laſt in a Priſon, unleſs this Honourable Houſe do take your poor Petitioner's deplorable Caſe into their tender Conſideration, his ſaid Penſion of 40 *l. per* Month being his whole and only Subſiſtance, he having no Eſtate to live upon.

THE Premiſes conſidered, your Petitioner throws himſelf at the Feet of this Honourable Houſe, and prays your Honours to take his deplorable Caſe into your tender Conſideration; ſo that your Petitioner may receive the Arrears of his Penſion to diſcharge his Debts, and that he may be reſtor'd to his Penſion of 40 *l. per* Month, that he and his diſtreſſed Family may not ſtarve for Want of Bread.

And your Petitioner ſhall ever pray, &c.